

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed June 16, 2008, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration. To further the prosecution of this application, each of the rejections set forth in the

Office Action has been carefully considered and is addressed below. The application as presented is believed to be in condition for allowance.

Initially, Applicant thanks Examiner Vu for the courtesies extended during the telephone interview conducted on September 29, 2008 with Applicant's representative, Scott J. Gerwin. The substance of this interview is summarized herein.

The Office Action rejects claims 96-107 and 110-113 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as purportedly being obvious over Kim ("Design of Software Systems Based on Axiomatic Design") in view of Talbott (5,375,440). In view of the amendments made herein to independent claims 96 and 105, reconsideration of this rejection is respectfully requested.

During the telephone interview, Applicant's representative explained that while Kim discusses the use of design matrices, neither Kim nor Talbott discloses or suggests how the structure of an object-oriented software system can be defined using a design matrix. The Examiner indicated that he agreed that neither Kim nor Talbott discloses this concept and, while obviously reserving final judgment until reviewing Applicant's amended claims, indicated that if the independent claims were amended to be more specific about the process for using a design matrix to define an object-oriented structure, he believed the claims would distinguish over this reference.

Applicant has amended each of claims independent 96 and 105 to recite, in even greater detail, the process of defining an object-oriented structure of a software system. In particular, each of these claims recites an act of: using the design matrix to define an object-oriented structure of the software system by performing acts of: a) creating an object-oriented class that corresponds to a parent design parameter in the hierarchy of design parameters; b) identifying attributes of the object-oriented class by representing the leaf design parameters of the parent design parameter as the attributes of the object-oriented class; c) for each of the leaf design parameters identified in the act b), determining from the design matrix the leaf functional

requirement that satisfies the design parameter; and d) representing each leaf functional requirement determined in the act c) as a method of the object-oriented class, wherein the method for each leaf functional requirement is a method to perform the task defined by the leaf functional requirement. Support for these amendments can be found in Applicant's specification at page 31-page 36.

None of the cited references even mention using a design matrix to define an object-oriented structure of a software system, let alone doing so in the manner recited in claims 96 and 105.

As such, each of claims 96 and 105 patentably distinguishes over Kim and Talbott, and it respectfully requested that the rejection of these claims be withdrawn.

Claims 98-100 depend from claim 96 and claim 107 depends from claim 105. Each of these claims is patentable for at least the same reasons as the independent claim from which it depends. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of each of these claims be withdrawn.

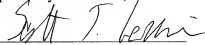
CONCLUSION

A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at the telephone number listed below if this communication does not place the case in condition for allowance.

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicant hereby requests any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 23/2825.

Dated: December 16, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Scott J. Gerwin
Registration No.: 57,866
WOLF, GREENFIELD & SACKS, P.C.
Federal Reserve Plaza
600 Atlantic Avenue
Boston, Massachusetts 02210-2206
(617) 646-8000